



HIGHLIGHTS

- The food security situation continues to deteriorate in the Horn of Africa.
- Funding is urgently needed to both save lives and livelihoods, and build longer-term resilience to shocks in the region.
- The window of opportunity is quickly closing. Farmers and herders need support now to make the most of the coming rainy season. A failure to act now could worsen the food security situation across the region.
- Today, FAO’s funding gap stands at over **USD 103 million** for urgent interventions.

DROUGHT-AFFECTED COUNTRIES

DJIBOUTI

Unpredictable rainfall patterns are an intrinsic feature of the arid and semi-arid lands that characterize much of the Horn of Africa. However, the current drought has accentuated normal fluctuations throughout the region, with life-threatening impacts on the most vulnerable, particularly pastoralists and rural households in Djibouti.

According to the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET), two consecutive failed seasons (2010/11 *Heys/Dada* and 2011 *Diraac/Sougum*), coupled with soaring wheat flour prices, dramatically increased food insecurity in Djibouti. An estimated 146 000 people (mainly agropastoralists in rural areas of Djibouti and 26 000 new arrivals in suburban areas) are experiencing a food security crisis, with few alternative livelihood options.

Situation Update

Rainfall

- Two consecutive failed rains deprived northwest and southeast border zones of much-needed rains.
- Three days of *karma/karan* rains (2–4 August) were received throughout the country. However, the rains were unusually weak and were insufficient to replenish water reserves (they often decrease salinity in wells) and pastures.

Crop production

- There is no ongoing cropping season; however, farmers are about to prepare their lands for the coming *saïson fraîche*, which starts in mid-September.
- Nursery planting, which normally takes place in mid-August, was delayed because of the weak *karma/karan* rains.
- Due to the drought and lack of quality seed markets, quality seeds are not available locally and the wealthiest farmers are travelling to Ethiopia to procure the required seeds.

Water and pasture

- The small amount of rain received in August filled short-term water supplies but the condition of pastures remains poor. The whole country has critically low levels of water and pasture.
- The only animal fodder available is through “fodder trees”, which are only available to goats and camels. Sheep and cows cannot benefit from the few available nutrients. FAO is currently producing animal feed in the form of enhanced/compacted hay to sustain the dwindling livestock herds.

Situation Update (ctd)

Livestock condition

- Almost 50 percent of cattle have been lost to disease and starvation in the past five years.
- Households are facing increasing difficulties to feed themselves (and their livestock), and to sustain their livelihoods given deteriorating natural resources (water, foliage and pasture) and the lack of alternative income sources.
- Diarrhoea, intestinal parasites and tick outbreaks have been reported throughout the country due to poor animal health.

Market prices

- The current situation in Djibouti and neighbouring countries, and disrupted commodity flows (with Ethiopia banning grain exports) have led to market price increases. This has placed additional pressure on prices in a country that imports 90 percent of its cereals.
- FEWS NET reports an increase in the price of wheat in June by 20 to 40 percent as compared with 2010 in most markets, as well as in sorghum flour by 17 percent.
- Fuel prices have risen by more than 50 percent since October 2010 (FEWS NET, July 2011).

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

FAO has established priority interventions for emergency response and recovery interventions in the country, including: (i) preserving livestock through the provision of fodder, drugs and vaccines, strengthening laboratory and diagnostic services, and promoting the community animal health worker (CAHW) network; (ii) facilitating access to drinking water for human and animal consumption by improving the water supply in most affected localities and rehabilitating groundwater catchment facilities; (iii) improving rural small-scale irrigation for fodder and vegetable production; and (iv) reinforcing the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock's capacity to respond to the crisis.

Recently completed activities:

- distribution of almost 2 000 goats to restock dwindling herds in Ali-Sabieh and Tadjourah regions;
- establishment of a community-based animal health network;
- training of 50 CAHWs (ten per region);
- distribution of vaccines, medicines, salt licks and micronutrients for pneumonia, diarrhoea, malnutrition and ticks for 80 000 livestock; and
- construction of five cisterns of 100 m³ in Arta (karta) and Tadjourah.

Planned and ongoing activities:

- herd restocking with 3 250 pregnant goats in Dikhil, Arta and Obock;
- distribution of 150 tonnes of hay for goats;
- distribution of vaccines, medicines, salt licks and micronutrients for pneumonia, diarrhoea, malnutrition and ticks for 100 000 livestock;
- rehabilitation of 15 key wells and troughs in rural areas for human and livestock water consumption;
- construction and rehabilitation of an additional 12 cisterns of 100 m³ in Dikhil and Obock;
- distribution of 500 water barrels (200 litres each) to drought-affected agropastoralist communities;
- rehabilitation of 10 percent of small vegetable/fodder gardens;
- rehabilitation of 125 micro-irrigation systems; and
- strengthening of the disaster risk management (DRM) platform for Djibouti.

GAPS: Almost USD 3.8 million is still needed to implement immediate and short-term recovery activities so that crisis-affected communities are able to continue farming and protect their livelihoods.

ETHIOPIA

Situation Update

Rainfall

- Ethiopia has three main rainfall regimes: northern and western highlands, northeast lowlands, and southern lowlands.
- Heavy rains are now falling across the northern and western highlands. Rains are also reported in the northeast lowlands. Areas receiving rainfall face an increased risk of flooding.
- The southern lowlands are experiencing drought and no rains are expected until mid-October.

Adverse weather conditions

- Heavy rains in the northern and western highlands have resulted in soil saturation in some areas of the highlands, significantly increasing the threat of flooding, as forecast by meteorologists monitoring *La Niña*.
- Two forms of flooding are expected: (i) flash floods in localized mountain areas; and (ii) river basin flooding in the flood plains. Flash floods have damaged 150 ha of crop lands in the highlands of Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) Region.
- River levels have risen in all the main rivers (including Wabe Shabelle, which overflowed on 6 August in Mustahil *woreda* on the border with Somalia).
- Hailstorms damaged more than 2 000 ha of crops and killed 400 livestock in Silte Zone, SNNP Region.

Situation Update (ctd)

Crop production

- Planting continues throughout the highlands following the onset of the main rains.
- In the main planting areas, crop establishment is normal to above-normal, although the late planting of spring crops has delayed planting in some localized areas.
- FAO estimates that this year's main crops will be normal to above normal in the northern and western highlands.

Water and pasture

- Water and pasture availability are determined by rainfall zones, with either good or improving availability in the northern and western highlands and the northeast lowlands. There are severe shortages in the drought-affected southern lowlands.

Livestock condition

- Livestock body condition largely reflects rainfall and pasture, although animal health plays a role. Livestock body condition has improved enormously in Ethiopia's highlands.
- Poor body condition and livestock deaths are being reported across the southern lowlands, as the drought deepens. While there are no official estimates of anticipated livestock losses due to drought, mortality rates can be expected to be around 60 percent in cattle, 40 percent in sheep and 25 to 30 percent in goats. This represents a huge loss of livestock with a profound impact at the household and national economic levels.
- Healthy animals are being moved far from their homes to remote areas where some grazing remains. This offers pastoralists the best chance of protecting their livestock.
- In some areas, livestock losses due to drought are rising owing to disease, including an outbreak of *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR) in Filtu *woreda* of Liben Zone.

Market prices

- Livestock prices remain stable in most of the country; although, the price of emaciated animals in drought-affected areas of the southern highlands has collapsed.
- Grain prices have risen 47 percent in the last 12 months in Ethiopia's main markets and much more in some regions in which there is an unusually high demand owing to drought. In some places, grain prices are 100 percent above 2010 prices. However, in areas where safety net food transfers are being distributed, prices are reportedly stabilizing.

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

In **response** to the drought, FAO Ethiopia is providing livelihood support to affected households according to their primary livelihood interests. For example, in drought-affected smallholder farming areas, support is focused on preparing for the next planting season in early 2012. In contrast, in the southern lowlands, the main form of activity is support to pastoralists, who rely on livestock keeping.

In addition to supporting **response** activities, FAO Ethiopia is also turning its attention to the identification and planning of appropriate early recovery and rehabilitation actions.

Support to drought-affected smallholder farmers

Restoring smallholder cropping

- FAO Ethiopia has been supporting the distribution of sweet potato planting materials in drought-affected areas to protect household nutrition in times of stress. Interventions have had a huge impact on assisted households.
- In May and June 2011, FAO Ethiopia distributed 3.9 million sweet potato cuttings to over 3 000 households in three *woredas* of SNNP Region. In the same region, 3 tonnes of taro were distributed to 300 households and 45 000 cassava cuttings to more than 1 800 smallholder farmers in three additional *woredas*.
- In addition, in South Wollo Zone, Oromia Region, 1.9 million sweet potato cuttings were distributed to drought-affected *Belg* smallholder farmers.

Support to pastoralists

Repairing water sources

- 12 critical water points in Borana and Guji *woredas* of Oromia Region have been identified and are being rehabilitated with funds from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).
- 14 additional water points have been identified for rehabilitation in Afar, Oromia and Somali Regions with support from the European Commission Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO).

Supplementing livestock feed

- Some 23 000 multinutrient blocks (MNBs), 1.5 tonnes of molasses and 5 tonnes of urea have been transported to drought-affected parts of Borena Zone to help protect core breeding animals from drought. This intervention is planned to reach 6 000 livestock.
- In addition, 10 000 Napier grass root stems and 700 kg of forage seeds have been purchased and transported to drought-affected areas, where they will support the expansion of irrigated fodder and therefore provide livestock keepers with new sources of fodder to overcome drought.

Animal health

- With CERF funding, veterinary drugs have been distributed to South Omo Zone, Somali Region and Borena/Guji Zones of Oromia Region, with running costs to implement the intervention.
- Letters of Agreement have been signed with Islamic Relief and Pastoral Concern Association for establishing four pharmacies linked to 60 CAHWs (Afdar) and three pharmacies linked to 45 CAHWs (Liben). The first instalment is complete and veterinary drugs have been provided to the NGOs.

Slaughter de-stocking

- As a last resort to support drought-affected livestock keepers, slaughter de-stocking is a means of both injecting cash into drought-affected communities and, if the meat is consumed, supporting household nutrition. Only when the animals are so emaciated that they cannot be eaten are they disposed of. Where this happens, prices are reduced by 50 percent.
- FAO Ethiopia is implementing de-stocking projects in two *woredas* of Somali Region and, to-date, 831 sheep and goats have been slaughtered. As none of the animals were too emaciated, all were butchered and the meat distributed to poorer households with children. A total of 2 500 households received meat and USD 19 500 was injected into the local economy, directly benefiting 500 households.
- In neighbouring Oromia Region, 1 050 cattle and 1 300 sheep and goats have been slaughtered in a similar programme. However, the levels of emaciation meant that the majority of the cattle (93 percent) and 10 percent of sheep and goat carcasses were disposed of. Despite these losses, 2 800 households received meat and 2 500 households received cash payments for their animals of USD 81 600.

Coordination

The federal Disaster Risk Management – Agricultural Task Force is chaired by a representative from the Ministry of Agriculture and co-chaired by FAO. Regional and zonal Agricultural/Pastoral Task Forces in Afar, Oromia and Somali Regions are also supported by FAO to improve Government-led initiatives to coordinate and harmonize drought actions.

GAPS: An estimated USD 10.35 million is required to implement immediate and short-term recovery activities so that crisis-affected communities are able to continue farming and protect their livelihoods.

KENYA

An estimated 3.75 million people in rural areas are in need of assistance as a direct result of the drought (1 847 000 in pastoral areas and 1 903 200 in marginal agriculture areas). In addition to poor rainfall, conflict, high food prices and livestock migrations are also putting pressure on food security.

Situation Update

Rainfall

- Overall, the 2011 long rains (March-June) were erratic and unpredictable. The onset of the rains in most areas was delayed, especially in the eastern half of the country. Parts of Marsabit, Isiolo, Mwingi (Eastern Province) and Wajir (North Eastern Province) received less than 10 percent of normal rainfall.
- Many farmers and pastoralists are facing their second or third consecutive season of failed rains.
- Flash floods were reported in some lakeshore areas and in parts of Turkana (Rift Valley Province).
- Preliminary forecasts indicate that the 2011 short rains (October-December) will likely be above normal in the western half of the country and in the coastal region; slightly better in most of the southeastern lowlands; and normal in most of the east and northeastern pastoral areas.
- Substantial rainfall deficits are expected in northeast Mandera (North Eastern Province).

Crop production

- The long rains account for 85 percent of national maize output. The expected output following the 2011 long rains is 2.34 million tonnes, which is about 15 percent below the five-year average.
- There was near total crop failure in the southeastern region and in parts of the coastal lowlands.
- Harvesting has either been completed or is still ongoing in the South Rift, Nyanza and Western Provinces.
- Expected higher than average October-December rains could interrupt harvesting in the “grain basket” (Rift Valley).

Water and pasture

- Pasture availability is poor in most parts of northwestern Kenya, except in southern Turkana and Samburu where it is good (in southern Turkana, however, it is largely inaccessible due to conflict). In Samburu, the pasture is expected to last two-three months instead of five months. The trekking distance for pasture is 25-50 km compared with the usual 10-24 km, while the distance for water is 5-10 km compared with the usual 2-5 km.
- In northeastern Kenya, pasture availability is poor and being depleted; browse is fair and expected to last for one month instead of three-four months. The trekking distance for pasture has doubled, except in Mandera where it has tripled (30-50 km). Water availability is poor.

Situation Update (ctd)

- In the agropastoral areas such as Baringo, Laikipia, West Pokot, pasture is good to fair and should last two-three months instead of the usual three-four months. The trekking distance is 10-15 km as opposed to the usual 1-4 km. Distances to water sources are about 5-8 km as opposed to 1-5km, except in pastoral Narok, Laikipia and Kajiado, which are about 20 km.
- In the southeastern region, pasture and browse are fair to poor and expected to last one-two months compared to the normal four months. Trekking distance for pasture has doubled.
- In the coastal areas, pasture and browse are good to fair and expected to last two-three months compared to the usual four months. Trekking distances are about 2-15 km compared to the usual 1-5 km.

Livestock condition

- Livestock body condition is fair to poor in northwestern Kenya, except in Samburu and southern Turkana where it is good. Livestock mortality is above normal (15 percent for cattle, sheep and goats; and five percent for camels).
- In northeastern Kenya, the body condition is fair for camels and goats, but poor for cattle and sheep. Livestock migration for cattle and camels is about 80 percent from Mandera, Wajir and Garissa to Isiolo, Laikipia, Lamu, Kwale, Somalia, and Ethiopia.
- In agropastoral areas such as Baringo, Laikipia and West Pokot, livestock body condition is good for camels and goats, but fair for cattle and sheep. Livestock have migrated from West Pokot to Uganda and from Isiolo, Marsabit and Baringo to Laikipia. Market operations have been disrupted due to foot-and-mouth disease quarantines, especially in Laikipia, Baringo and Eldama Ravine.
- In the southeastern region, livestock body condition is fair to poor for cattle and sheep and good to fair for goats. There has been livestock migration from Garissa, Wajir, Tana River, Isiolo and Somalia into Meru North, Kitui, Mwingi and Tharaka, threatening food security in those areas.
- In the coastal areas, livestock body condition is fair for cattle, sheep and goats.

Market prices

- Food prices began rising as of late 2010, reaching record levels in July 2011. Prices for non-food commodities (e.g. fuel) have followed a similar trend.
- Maize prices have begun to decline in markets close to harvesting areas (South Rift, Western and Nyanza Provinces), but are still 70-130 percent higher than the five-year averages in key areas of concern.
- Pastoral markets are reporting the highest price deviations, due in part to higher transaction costs and poor price transmission. Heightened cereal prices are eroding pastoralists' terms of trade.
- Most production is expected to be in the markets from October to March, which could contribute to further price declines.

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

Support to pastoral livelihoods:

FAO is currently implementing projects in Kitui, Makueni and Marsabit (Eastern Province), Garissa (North Eastern Province) and East Pokot (Rift Valley), using financing from CERF to enhance disease surveillance and provide animal health support to a targeted one million animals. The project is being scaled up with additional CERF support in the above districts and is being rolled out in Moyale, Isiolo and Mwingi (Eastern), Mandera and Wajir (North Eastern), Turkana (Rift Valley) and Tana River (Coast).

Capacity development:

FAO is working to strengthen the capacity of the Government and NGOs as master trainers in drought risk reduction, drought management and the improved use of natural resources through Pastoral Field Schools in Turkana in northern Kenya.

Voucher-for-work activities:

FAO is carrying out voucher-for-work activities in marginal agricultural areas in Eastern Kenya (Mwingi, Kitui and Mbeere), which are benefiting over 5 000 households. Targeted households work in Farmer Field School groups to construct soil and water conservation structures (mainly terracing on their own farms) and water harvesting structures. Vouchers are redeemed for food and other basic items from local traders. The structures prevent soil degradation, helping to improve resilience and reduce the negative impacts of future drought on crops. As production in these arid and semi-arid areas is largely dependent on the short rains, improved drought-tolerant crop varieties are needed in September and October 2011 to improve food security.

Support to irrigation:

The promotion of irrigated agriculture is one of the priorities of the Government of Kenya. FAO is supporting a total of 12 community-based irrigation schemes in vulnerable, drought-affected communities in Nyanza, Rift Valley and North Eastern Provinces with the aim of boosting food and fodder production. Rice, sorghum, millet, maize and legume crops planted in April 2011 are currently being harvested.

In addition, FAO has begun introducing drip irrigation kits to households in Kitui (Eastern Kenya).

GAPS and CONSTRAINTS: An estimated USD 27.3 million is required to address unmet needs, including distributing drought-tolerant seeds and fertilizers, promoting drought-tolerant crops, supporting seed production, rehabilitating smallholder irrigation schemes, livestock off-take, and animal disease surveillance and treatment.

SOMALIA

Situation Update (FSNAU 24 August)

Current food security outcomes and classification

- In the northwest regions, the food security situation has deteriorated in key pastoral livelihoods, primarily as a result of drastic livestock asset losses during the harsh *Jilaal* season, limited milk production and increased debt levels. The herd size of small ruminants in these livelihoods is estimated to decline to 45-55 percent of baseline levels by December 2011, which will further erode access to food during the coming three months.
- In the northeast, although rangeland, water and livestock body conditions improved slightly, a food security crisis persists in all livelihoods of Sool Plateau, Coastal Deeh, Nugaal Valley, East Golis and Krakaar Dharoor Valley, following three successive seasons of below-normal rainfall, which have led to a considerable reduction in livestock assets and increased pastoral destitution.
- In central regions, food and livelihood security remains in crisis, owing to a combination of factors including poor rainfall, reduced livestock prices, increased cereal and fuel prices, weakened purchasing power, reduced livestock assets, failure of the cowpea crop harvest, increased numbers of destitute and widespread and sustained civil insecurity.
- Food security in southern Somalia remains dire. Following two consecutive seasonal harvest failures (*Deyr* 2010/11 and *Gu* 2011), several livelihoods in Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle (Adale and Adan Yabal) regions, as well as IDP populations in Afgoye and Mogadishu have fallen into famine. Agropastoral, cattle pastoral and riverine areas are the hardest hit.
- The prevalence of acute malnutrition exceeds 30 percent in most areas of the south and is higher than 50 percent in some of the worst-affected areas. Famine is expected to spread into most of southern Somalia in the coming 4 to 6 weeks.

Crop production

- *Gu* 2011 cereal production in southern Somalia is estimated at 37 600 tonnes, of which 62 percent is maize, 36 percent sorghum and 2 percent rice. This is the lowest *Gu* cereal production in 17 years and represents only 26 percent of the 1995–2010 post-war average, 19 percent of 2010 *Gu* production and 32 percent of the *Gu* five-year average.
- Most of the cereal harvest came from irrigated areas.
- Due to a long dry spell and moisture stress during the crop establishment and development stages, rainfed sorghum and maize harvests largely failed or were significantly below normal. Low river levels, poor irrigation infrastructure, high irrigation completion in riverine areas, and crop pests and diseases in some areas also limited production.
- Production estimates are lowest for Juba regions and largest in Lower Shabelle.
- In **northwest** agropastoral areas, cereal establishment and production estimates are below average due to the below-average *Gu* rains. However, crop production is expected to be higher than the establishment projects due to favourable *karan* rains in the last month, which provided the opportunity for second cycle maize planting and improved the conditions of the standing sorghum crops.
- **Shabelle regions:** the maize basket, which normally provides almost 80 percent of maize production in southern Somalia, collected less than one-third of the normal harvest. Following the onset of *Hagaa* rains in late July, off-season planting of maize and sesame is ongoing in most of the coastal areas of Lower Shabelle and Juba regions.
- **Bay region:** the sorghum basket, which normally provides 60–70 percent of the country's sorghum, produced only 20 percent of the post-war average and 11 percent of *Gu* 2010.
- The Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) for Somalia, FEWS NET and partners will carry out an off-season crop assessment in Lower Shabelle and Juba regions in late September or early October.

Water and pasture

- **South and central:** the improved pasture and water conditions that followed erratic and below-normal *Gu* rains were short lived in most key pastoral areas of south and central regions.
- **North:** Pasture is average in most regions of the north; however, it is limited in some areas. Both pasture and water conditions are exceptionally good in Awdal and W. Galbeed regions due to normal *karan* rains in July–August.
- Pastoralists in Gedo, Juba, Bay and Bakool are migrating with their livestock towards Lower Shabelle region, where continuing good *Hagaa* rains have improved water and pasture availability.

Livestock body condition

- Livestock body conditions in the south and central regions are mixed due to variations in pasture and water availability and their resistance to drought. Cattle and sheep did not recover from the past drought and are in poor condition, while camels and goats have maintained average body conditions.
- Livestock exports from Bossaso Port in July 2011 were 43 percent higher than in June, while total livestock exports from Berbera Port in July were 91 percent higher than in June. This is mainly attributable to the access of large ships to Berbera and the exploration of new markets.

Situation Update (ctd)

Market prices

- Prices of locally produced cereal have increased by 50–100 percent since January 2011 and 95–135 percent since June 2010 in all markets of southern Somalia.
- Increased cereal supply due to inflow from neighbouring countries (following food aid distributions in Somali Region of Ethiopia and North Eastern Province of Kenya) and limited contribution from the current harvest led to a slight fall in cereal prices in July 2011.
- Prices of cereals are expected to rise further in the coming months due to a shortage of supplies from the Gu 2011 harvest and limited humanitarian food interventions in southern regions.
- In northwest regions, local goat prices remained stable, while they decreased in northeast and central regions. Local goat prices in Juba, Bay and Bakool have risen slightly compared with July 2011, while in Shabelle they have decreased.
- Cattle prices in Juba and Shabelle further declined from June 2011, although they have risen slightly in Bay and Bakool. However, cattle prices remain lower than last year (by 35–56 percent), mainly due to limited pasture availability along the trekking route to Garissa market.
- Terms of trade continue to be unfavourable and deteriorating in most regions.

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

Restoring crop production capacity of farmers:

FAO is in the process of procuring 1 500 tonnes of maize seeds, 800 tonnes of sorghum seeds, 120 tonnes of sesame seeds, 1 300 tonnes of TSP fertilizer and 3 750 tonnes of urea. These inputs will be provided to 150 833 farming households (over 900 000 people) and distribution is expected to begin in September 2011 in time for the Deyr season (October to December).

Disease surveillance, vaccination and treatment:

With current funding, FAO will treat a total of 1 053 333 animals belonging to 25 625 households across Somalia. This activity will begin in September 2011.

Provision of collapsible water tanks and water trucking

FAO will support 10 000 households through the distribution of 96 collapsible water tanks, which will improve access to water for livestock. The collapsible water tanks will be distributed in North Afmadow and South Gedo districts of Bardere and Elwak for the bulk storage of water in livestock grazing blocks.

Cash-for-work activities:

The table below provides an overview of FAO's ongoing cash-for-work activities per region.

Region	Number of households	Number of people	Amount of cash transferred monthly (USD)	Duration of support	Start date	End date
Lower Shabelle	1 844	11 064	72	1 month	23 July	24 August
Middle Shabelle	4 338	26 028	72	1 month	23 July	24 August
Lower Shabelle	7 000	42 000	72	2 months	7 August	2 October
Lower Juba	7 000	42 000	72	2 months	7 August	2 October
Lower Juba	944	5 664	72	1 month	27 August	20 September
Middle Juba	714	4 284	72	1 month	27 August	20 September
Bay	1 526	9 156	72	1 month	27 August	20 September
Hiiran	1 468	8 808	72	1 month	27 August	20 September
Bakool	1 468	8 808	72	1 month	27 August	20 September
Lower Shabelle	1 658	9 948	72	1 month	27 August	20 September
	27 960	167 760				

The table below provides an overview of the rehabilitation activities being carried out through the cash-for-work programme.

District	Targeted households	Total cash injection (USD)	Canals rehabilitated (km)	Water catchment excavated (m ³)
Jowhar	1 944	310 106	76.8	0
Afgoye	8 137	109 184	28.7	5 478
Jamama	2 321	35 403	5.8	0
Qoryooley	1 521	27 378	4.5	0
Kurtunwarey	2 000	49 320	69.3	0
	15 923	531 391	185.1	5 478

FSNAU

FEWS NET and the FAO-managed FSNAU issued a joint report on 24 August 2011 (with highlights presented in the Situation Update above) on the current food security and outcomes classification. The report highlights the following and can be found at <http://www.fsnau.org/downloads/Somalia-Dekadal-4th-24August2011.pdf>:

- High cereal prices, coupled with reduced incomes as a result of declining crop sales, and livestock and livestock product sales, as well as limited labour opportunities and an increasing burden of accumulated debts continue to erode the ability of rural and urban households to afford food.
- Based on the post-*Gu* assessment findings, crop production in southern Somalia is expected to be about one-quarter of the 1995–2010 *Gu* season average, the lowest *Gu* production in 17 years.

Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM)

SWALIM issued its weekly hydro-meteorological update on 23 August 2011, which provides information on current rainfall and river levels. The update can be accessed at <http://www.swalim.org>. The next update will be issued on 30 August 2011.

GAPS and CONSTRAINTS: Over USD 29 million is still urgently needed to: (i) safeguard the livelihoods and remaining assets of herders through improved fodder production and distribution and pasture/rangeland management; (ii) reach a further 62 375 households through livestock disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination; (iii) start slaughter de-stocking activities; (iv) assist a further 2 000 households with water tanks and water trucking; and (v) reach another 48 599 households through cash-for-work interventions.

CURRENT FUNDING RECEIVED FOR FAO'S DROUGHT RESPONSE PROGRAMME

Country	FAO funding requirement	Funds received to-date*	Funds in the pipeline^	Total funds received + pipeline	Funding gap
Somalia	70 000 000	20 027 334	20 281 500	40 308 834	29 691 166
Ethiopia	12 500 000	2 145 901	0	2 145 901	10 354 099
Kenya	27 260 000	6 118 964	1 680 000	7 798 964	19 461 036
Djibouti	6 540 918	2 461 326	300 000	2 761 326	3 779 592
Regional	1 900 000	0	700 000	700 000	1 200 000
South Sudan	15 878 300	3 742 591	0	3 742 591	12 135 709
Sudan	21 000 000	0	0	0	21 000 000
Uganda	6 000 000	0	0	0	6 000 000
Total	161 079 218	34 496 116	22 961 500	57 457 616	103 621 602

*This is reflected in the UNOCHA Financial Tracking System and FAO's Field Programme Management Information System

^This reflects funding pledged but not yet received.

FAO PRIORITIES IN DROUGHT-AFFECTED COUNTRIES

- providing farmers and herders in Somalia with the cash they need to buy food for their families through cash-for-work programmes
- safeguarding the remaining assets of drought-affected herders through animal health support
- enhancing local skills and capacities to overcome drought-related crises through training in improved production practices
- scaling-up the distribution of drought-tolerant crop and pasture seeds
- coordinating ongoing drought-related food security and nutrition interventions at the regional, national and community levels in partnership with government institutions, regional bodies, NGOs and other United Nations agencies



FAO ONGOING INTERVENTIONS IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

SOUTH SUDAN

The drought in parts of the Horn of Africa is raising concerns about how it may impact the already fragile food security and livelihoods of South Sudan's population.

On 9 July 2011, South Sudan officially declared its independence from the Republic of the Sudan. In the lead up to the January referendum and July independence, hundreds of thousands of displaced South Sudanese returned to the new country. Over 400 000 people have returned since the Government began its assistance programme and a further 300 000 are expected to return from Khartoum by the end of 2011. The large numbers of returnees is placing considerable pressure on availability of and access to food and livelihood opportunities.

There are presently over 1 million people in South Sudan who risk food insecurity, particularly in the border states of Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, Warrap and Upper Nile, where food security is deteriorating at an alarming rate.

The situation is compounded by rapid population growth, pest and disease outbreaks, drought, conflicts, low agricultural productivity, limited access to services, weak markets, displacement and returns, poor food production, and rising food prices.

The progress of the rains in 2011 is also of concern. Rainfall has been erratic, with prolonged dry spells reported mainly in Lakes, Northern and Western Bahr el-Ghazal, Upper Nile, Eastern Equatoria and parts of Central Equatoria, Warrap and Jonglei states. This is likely to affect food production, particularly cereal production, placing populations at high risk of food insecurity. A current estimate of cereal production is about 30–40 percent below 2010 production figures. Severe crop wilting has been reported in areas that experienced long dry spells.

The prices of commodities have been pushed up due to limited availability exacerbated by rising fuel prices, shortages, reduced flow of commodities from the Sudan to South Sudan, insecurity, poor road access, and rising demand owing to the large number of returnees and IDPs. This is severely straining households' coping mechanisms.

Livestock diseases are reported to be prevalent in Eastern Equatoria, Unity, Lakes, Jonglei, Northern and Western Bahr el-Ghazal and Upper Nile states, including foot-and-mouth disease, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, haemorrhagic septicaemia, blackquarter, anthrax, PPR and brucella.

The current socio-political crisis in Abyei area is further exacerbating the fragile food security situation and has serious implications for household vulnerability in Agok area and Twic county of Warrap state.

While the newly independent country is facing these challenges, the underused vast agricultural lands and natural resources, if sustainably harnessed, could contribute to economic growth and poverty alleviation.

FAO is implementing a broad portfolio of agricultural relief and rehabilitation projects in Southern Sudan and is providing livelihood recovery support to IDPs, returnees and vulnerable resident households to increase agricultural production and productivity, mitigate famine, improve nutrition and accelerate the recovery of food security.

FAO's humanitarian interventions in South Sudan are implemented within the following main areas:

- support to vulnerable communities by providing appropriate, improved and diversified agricultural, livestock production and animal health, animal traction and fisheries inputs, combining better production with environmental sustainability;
- rehabilitation/construction of vital infrastructure (seed laboratories, markets, storage facilities, etc.);
- capacity development, training and technical assistance to promote local production and marketing systems;
- sustaining peace by preventing/resolving disputes over the use of natural resources in connection with the flow of returnees and supporting the economic and social reintegration of demobilized ex-combatants;
- carrying out needs/food security/seed assessments;
- coordination of the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster; and
- prevention; preparedness, early warning and disaster risk reduction.

THE SUDAN

The Transitional Areas and Darfur region have been experiencing a complex humanitarian emergency, resulting in the loss of agricultural assets, such as seeds, farming tools and livestock, severely impacting on the productive capacity of affected civilian populations. Humanitarian needs remain generally high, as the population continues to suffer widespread poverty and inequitable development.

FAO's ongoing interventions in the Sudan (mainly the Transitional Areas and Darfur) cover five main areas:

- crop production (provision of agricultural productive inputs and services and training on crop husbandry);
- livestock asset protection (vaccination and treatment of livestock, training and equipping CAHWs, livestock disease surveillance, and rehabilitation of water points, veterinary centres and clinics);
- environmental protection and restoration (producing and planting multipurpose tree seedlings, training on the production and use of fuel-efficient stoves, supporting farm protection and natural resource-based conflict transformation);
- livelihoods diversification and technology transfer (agroprocessing, oil extraction, water harvesting, small-scale irrigation, livestock restocking, providing animal traction, supporting blacksmithing for the production of agricultural tools); and
- coordination of the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector (information gathering, gap analysis, capacity development, etc.).

UGANDA

An estimated 600 000 people, mainly in northern Uganda, are facing moderate food insecurity. Some northern parts of the country are experiencing localized impacts of the drought that is affecting much of the Horn of Africa.

FAO's ongoing activities in Uganda in response include:

- organizing a four-day training workshop on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) with 45 participants from 31 districts from 15 to 20 August 2011 to introduce the IPC tool;
- initiating, together with the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, a review of the Agropastoral Field School curriculum in order to integrate a module on community-managed disaster risk reduction, so as to enhance ongoing efforts to build the resilience of agropastoral communities; and
- supporting district local governments to carry out animal disease surveillance, particularly in Karamoja, where various outbreaks have been reported.

FAO REGIONAL COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

The current situation in the Horn of Africa region is evolving rapidly. Decision-makers therefore require frequent updates on the situation to inform coherent and coordinated actions in response to the crisis. At the regional level, FAO is working to provide an effective, multistakeholder food security and nutrition coordination mechanism for the emergency, response and recovery over the drought cycle in the affected countries. Thus, activities carried out by FAO's Subregional Emergency Office for Eastern and Central Africa seek to:

- strengthen the regional food security and nutrition coordination mechanism for information-sharing and response identification and prioritization;

Activities: providing technical and coordination support to the regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG); further establishing national coordination mechanisms to ensure a regional harmonized approach to country-level interventions; timely production and dissemination of relevant food security and nutrition information; developing disaster risk management/reduction guidelines and guidance specific to drought in the Horn of Africa; supporting policy development/revision and planning at regional level; emergency gender response training to inform concrete actions to capitalize on and address the different needs of men, women, boys and girls in pastoralist and agropastoralist communities affected by drought.

- provide stakeholders with regular and timely regional, consensus-based food security and nutrition situation and outlook updates and analysis; and

Activities: facilitating and supporting the production of regional consensus-based food security and nutrition updates; providing technical and coordination support for IPC analysis in the affected countries; providing technical surge capacity for ad hoc emergency rapid analysis for specific crisis areas facing rapid changes in the food security and nutrition situation.

- identify and prioritize food security and nutrition situation and outlook analysis-based regional responses.

Activities: facilitating and supporting the identification, prioritization, advocacy for and dissemination of regional cross-sectoral response guidelines and guidance (e.g. for agriculture, livestock, gender and drought; and globally-recognized standards for humanitarian interventions and responses); and providing technical advice and support for coordinated sectoral interventions.

MEETINGS

FAO/G20 MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING – 25 JULY 2011

OBJECTIVE: To examine possible measures to address the crisis in the Horn of Africa.

MAIN OUTCOMES: The meeting demonstrated the united national and international resolve to urgently address the famine in Somalia and the hunger crisis in the Horn of Africa. The participants highlighted: (i) the importance of immediate response to save lives, protect people from malnutrition, and reduce human suffering; (ii) the need to rebuild livelihoods and improve resilience and agricultural production; (iii) the importance of sustainably improving the production and productivity of small farmers and herders; (iv) the need to enable farmers, fishers, and herders to help themselves out of this crisis; (v) the importance of pastoralism and agropastoralism as dynamic and sustainable livelihood systems in the Horn of Africa; and (vi) the need to support and strengthen initiatives led by the African Union, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the governments of the affected countries and the High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis.

FAO FOLLOW UP HIGH-LEVEL MEETING – 18 AUGUST 2011

OBJECTIVE: To take stock of the evolving situation in the Horn of Africa, and discuss the actions taken to-date to save lives and build resilience in the region.

MAIN OUTCOMES: The meeting built on the G20 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture and on the Emergency Ministerial-Level Meeting on the crisis situation in the Horn of Africa on 25 July 2011, organized by FAO at the request of the G20 Presidency. It also contributed to the preparation of response actions and investment decisions. Overall, the participants: (i) confirmed their commitment to a twin-track approach to meet the immediate needs of vulnerable populations while building their longer-term resilience; (ii) emphasized the need for stronger links between humanitarian and development initiatives; (iii) stressed the immediate need to increase support to livelihoods through humanitarian interventions that must be sustained until conditions are stable; (iv) agreed with the need to advocate for, seek and plan for assured multi-year funding for livelihood restoration programmes; and (v) endorsed the Africa- and country-led Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme as the most appropriate vision and strategic framework for sustainable livelihood development in Africa.

AFRICAN UNION PLEDGING CONFERENCE – 25 AUGUST 2011

OBJECTIVE: To raise resources and awareness among African Union Member States and the wider international community towards alleviating the plight of affected populations in the Horn of Africa.

MAIN OUTCOMES: To-date, over USD 371 million has been pledged by African countries in response to the ongoing crisis.

GOVERNMENT OF KENYA SUMMIT ON THE HORN OF AFRICA CRISIS, NAIROBI – 8 TO 9 SEPTEMBER 2011

OBJECTIVE: To focus on country-led programmes as the basis for comprehensively addressing and dealing with the humanitarian, security development and climate change challenges of the current crisis in the Horn of Africa; determine effective approaches to tackle longstanding, recurrent and debilitating events; reach agreement on support for country-led programmes, with enhanced assistance from the international community; adopt the Nairobi Action Plan, outlining the main elements of these country-led programmes; and address other relevant issues.

IGAD/AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK WORKSHOP ON LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA, DJIBOUTI – 14 TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2011

OBJECTIVE: To contribute to the development of a combined IGAD/African Development Bank/World Bank investment plan for pastoralist development of USD 375 million. FAO's Investment Centre, Subregional office for Eastern Africa and Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division have established a technical working group to prepare a technical paper for this meeting.

MINISTERIAL MINI-SUMMIT ON THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA, NEW YORK – 24 SEPTEMBER 2011

OBJECTIVE: To focus attention on the growing needs of affected people in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti; increase awareness of the humanitarian response in the region and identify ways of overcoming operational challenges; encourage and raise awareness about the benefits of multilateral humanitarian action in 2011 and looking ahead to funding requirements for the Horn of Africa in 2010; forge links between emergency relief and longer-term country-led interventions to reduce vulnerability to future food crises; and promote initiatives to encourage private citizens and businesses to contribute to the response, with an emphasis on donating through multilateral channels.

LINKS

Disaster risk reduction: www.disasterriskreduction.net
FAO: <http://www.fao.org/crisis/horn-africa/home/en>
FSNAU: www.fsnau.org
FAO and emergencies: http://www.fao.org/emergencies/country_information/list/regional/crisishoa/en/
SWALIM: www.faoswalim.org

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